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Fake Negro Uprising

Had not the editor of Cayton's Weekly lived in the state of Mississippi twenty five years, having been born there prior to the outbreak of the great Civil War, and being six years old past at its conclusion; had he not lived there thru the the period of reconstruction, when black human lives were cheaper than the refreshing waters that bubbled up from mother earth; had not he seen the Republican (Radical) party rise and fall in that and adjoining states, the Democratic red shirts, wrenching the rule from them, the Radicals, by armed force, using tactics that would have made the actors in the bloody days of the French Jacobin tragedy hang their heads in shame; had he not been acquainted with the murderous methods the white citizens of that state resorted to from time to time in order to perpetuate white supremacy; had he not seen the notorious Vardeman begin his political career, which is bespattered with Negro blood from beginning to end; then he, like most of the readers of the great metropolitan daily press, would attach some slight credence to the recent alleged Negro uprising in the state of Arkansas, reports of which possessed the public mind for ten or more days, and he would conclude with them that the white folks of that state and section of the country act wisely, yea, even humanly, in ever being on the alert and to use whatever force that seemed necessary to prevent the almost barbaric Negro from becoming a public menace to society in most of the states of our own sunny South..

But remembering all these he has his suspicions that the late Arkansas Negro uprising differs in no wise from the thousand and one that have been nipped in the bud "down South" by the ever vigilant white man, for the protection of white womanhood and for the continuance of the absolute purity of the white race.

Way back yonder prior to the Civil War Negro uprising throughout the South were of common occurrence, so said the white man of that section, which we suspect, like the recent Arkansas one, was no uprising at all, but when one or two Negroes became unruly and refused to be whipped, murderously regulated. Now Christian white men could not afford for the world to know that the black slaves were slaughtered in cold blood by them and so they deemed it necessary to trump up some plausible excuse for the wanton slaughter of Negroes, so they legalized and justified the killing by branding it a Negro uprising, which was put down by the strong arm of the law. So fearful were the whites of Negro uprisings that the word of God could not be given to the blacks only by white preachers and then only when a score or more of the masters were present.

Since the fall of the Republican party in the South in 1876, Negro uprisings have been of common and periodical occurrence, and just as vigorous methods were used to put them down as those recently used in Arkansas, and and being without arms for defense, the helpless colored man could but cower at the feet of his white slayer and beg for mercy, and thus has human slavery in the South been continued from time to time, and its almost as bad today as it was prior to Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

How we remember when the white men of our section of the state by the hundreds, from near and from far, would assemble about some Negro uprising district, armed as if for war, to put down an alleged Negro uprising, which was no uprising at all, but only a couple or more of Negroes refusing to be bulldozed to death; and after having killed the "smart niggers" and severely whipped a score or more of those "who refused to help them kill or punish their brethern," the whites would return to their homes and "praise the Lord with one accord."

We subsequently read in the Northern press the full account of this or that Negro uprising and would wonder to ourselves when it all happened.

But could more be expected than Negro uprisings when Negro men are brutalized to keep them in subjection and Negro women are bestialized to satisfy the animal lusts of white Christian men? It was in Arkansas where Federal officers whipped colored women on their bare backs last year because they refused to work on the farms. It was in Mississippi, Arkansas' next door neighbor, where two young colored women, respectively eighteen and sixteen years of age, were lynched for having raped an innocent young white man, and both of them being in an advanced stage of